

Reconsideration is also respectfully requested of the rejection of Claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Traughber (EP 713178) in view of Berdhal (US 5,713,045).

The invention relates to an information processing system comprising a first physical component represented by a first software object and a second physical component represented by a second software object. The first object has at least a first property that is changeable through a first call to the first object. The second object has at least a second property that is changeable through a second call to the second object.

The system enables registering a property route linking the first property to the second property so that a change in the first property causes the second call being issued to the second object upon invoking the property route. The input call to the first object has associated with it an identifier enabling to conditionally invoke the route.

Chambers

Chambers provides a control system comprising multiple electronic devices interconnected through a task-driven control means. The control means acts on respective software representations of each respective one of the devices (P.2, 1.7-10). For each real device with consumer functionality, there is a device abstraction, termed the "Abstract Device". The Abstract Device hides the idiosyncrasies of the real device and presents a more uniform interface for higher levels of software (P.9, 1.26-27). The Abstract Device has the responsibility of reporting status changes in the real device as event messages (P.12, 1.20-25). Chambers also discloses a communication

protocol using "events" (messages sent to multiple recipients, based on their previously declared interests) to disseminate information about significant changes in the state of devices. The communication protocol also provides a standardized Event Manager to support both the objects wishing to notify the system and those objects interested in being notified (P.10, 1.30-34).

Chambers does not disclose the system enabling registering a property route linking the first property to the second property. The communication protocol described in Chambers links the first object (abstract device wishing to notify) and the second object (abstract device interested in being notified) through "events" however Chambers does not disclose the "events" linking a first property of the first object to a second property of the second object.

In addition, Chambers does not disclose a change of the first property causing the second call being issued with the second call enabling a change of the second property.

Thus, contrary to the Examiner's statement that all elements are disclosed, at least the element "a property route linking the first property to the second property" is not, so the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102 is unsupported by the art and should be withdrawn.

Traughber

Traughber relates to event notification between a first software application program object and a second software application program object. The second object includes two or more states where the event is associated with a transition of the second object from one state to another state (col.2, 1.22-28).

The first application is notified in accordance with an interest in one or more of these event types (col.5, 1.1-11).

The occurrence of an event, like for example, the execution of a method can transition the application program from one state to another (col.5, 1.11-13).

The first application uses an add interest function to add an interest to a data structure set of interests when the first application desires to be notified of a specific event that occurred in the second application object.

Berdahl

Berdahl discloses a system which provides a set of frameworks for developing object-oriented desktop systems. These include frameworks for handling input, display, basic document manipulation, basic or compound document manipulation, graphics applications and graphics documents (col.2, 1.4-10). The input system includes specialized objects for handling keyboard input and mouse input.

According to the Examiner, Traugher teaches a property route (Add Interest 3b, Fig.3) so that a change in first property (state transition) notifies the second object upon invoking property route. A property route of the invention links the first property to the second property. Traugher neither mentions nor suggests linking a first property (of the second program application where event occurs) to a second property (of the first program application being notified).

In addition, Traugher neither mentions nor suggests the first object having at least a first property that is changeable through a first call to the first object and this first call being issued upon invoking the route mentioned above.

Thus, Traughber and Berdhal alone or in combination do not lead to a system of the invention.

It is therefore respectfully submitted that the rejection of independent Claims 1 and 8 and of dependent Claims 2-7 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. 103 is improper. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

It is respectfully submitted that independent Claims 1 and 8 are patentable over Chambers and over Traughber in view of Berdhal. It is also respectfully submitted that dependent Claims 2-7 and 9 are patentable over Chambers and over Traughber in view of Berdhal at least based on their dependencies.


Applicant respectfully submits that he has answered all issues raised by the Examiner and that the application is accordingly in condition for allowance. Such allowance is therefore respectfully requested.

Please charge any fees other than the issue fee to deposit account 14-1270.

Please credit any overpayments to the same account.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 18, 2001

By 
Gwenaelle Le Pennec
Limited Recognition under 37 C.F.R 10.9(b)
(408) 617-4837



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited this date with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to:

COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

On 1/18/2002
(Mailing Date)

By